

The Sydney Morning Herald.

No. 23,070.

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SUMMARY.

One German newspaper considers that the British Government is to turn Sulu, recently given to Egypt, into a naval base.

Several politicians and others on the active list have been arrested at Wu-hai, where they were on charge of espionage.

It has been officially announced in Berlin that the reported British possession of Philippines has been a invention.

Mr. Murray MacDonald declares that it is necessary to disarm the suspicious fleet in Germany towards England.

"This can never be done," the Labour leader said, "but we continue to pile up naval expenses."

The legations have urged the Peace Conference to bring about a settlement in the interests of China and the foreigners.

The over and 40 cases of gold have been sent from the Dahl, which is presumably bound for Egypt.

The Duke and Duchess of Fife have sailed for Egypt.

Queen Victoria visited the Taj Mahal, and the son of the prince of the Empress Abbar.

The Majesty then left for Jaipur, where a tour will be made by rail, motor car, and elephant.

Long-distance racing has occurred in Dumfries between workmen and deckers and carters at steaks.

The police who had been reformed from Glasgow and Edinburgh, were unable to control the rioters.

Freight has been despatched to Dundee, the "Times" refer to the divided feelings of the Cabinet respecting womanhood suffrage.

It is anticipated, should force Mr. Asquith to combat a policy which he regards as disastrous.

The doctors' referendum on the National Insurance Act resulted as follows:—Against, 1,000,000; For, 4,111.

The Minister of Commerce declares that the wearing of hobble skirts is threatening Paris fashion.

An outbreak of fire, caused it is thought, by the Board of Trade in Chicago.

It also destroyed a number of the records of Chicago Federation of Labour.

The London Board of Education has decided to make grants for cinematograph displays in continuation schools.

An eminent agent is to be prosecuted for attempting to import to Western Australia for unoccupied men.

Watchfulness is advised in Australia to prevent similar cases from arising.

The estate of the late Mr. W. T. Jones, the well-known sportsman, has been sworn for probate at Liverpool.

Horatio is in the three of another re-entrant, Q.F. guns having been smuggled through from New Orleans.

The Swansons' Valley Woods have subdivided, and the damage estimated at \$100,000.

In order to meet the large sum necessary for the present amount, the railway companies are increasing fares 1 per cent.

Mr. Justice Isaacs commenced the reading of the judgment in the famous weed case yesterday morning.

The No. 10 read at steadily till 1 p.m., and was anticipated being about half-way through.

The end of the judgment will probably be heard this evening or Friday morning.

The drift of the judgment so far as it has gone is against the defendants.

The moratorium is likely to be extended to the end of the year, and the present amount of the debt will be suspended.

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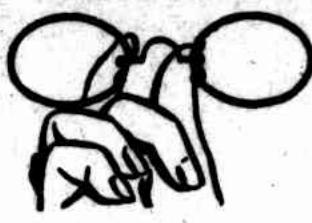
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CORNER MARTIN-PLACE AND PITT-STREET (OFF. G.P.O.).

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FEDERAL PARLIAMENT.

THE SENATE.

THE TARIFF PROPOSALS.

ALL NIGHT SITTING.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL REPORTER.)

MELBOURNE, Wednesday.

The Senate sat all Tuesday night discussing the Tariff proposals. The principal item is please duties raised on imports from Senator St. Ledger (Queensland) and Verdon (S.A.), and as far as the upright members were concerned, from Senator Miller (Vic.). Senator Verdon (N.S.W.) moved that the duty on upright plates should be 50 or 60 per cent and 50 or 60 per cent. The amendment was agreed to.

Vehicle, n.e.t. vehicles, parts, n.e.t. including wheels, n.e.t., undergoes an inclusive of 10 per cent, and 50 or 60 per cent, instead of 50 per cent and 60 per cent.

On item 202 "Vessels," Senator Meagher (N.S.W.) moved that the duty on ships should be admitted free if construction was commenced before December 1, 1911, and the vessels entered the Commonwealth before December 1, 1912.

The request was agreed to.

On item 219 out item (A), Senator Gardner (N.S.W.) moved that a duty of 60 per cent, and 60 per cent, should be imposed on pictures, including scripture cards of all kinds.

Reference was made by Senator Gardner to the "Labour" argument of Senator Oliver (Vic.) that the Commonwealth Government was occupying the chair. Further remarks as to a "political protestation" in the chair, drew from Senator Greenly the retort, "I do not care who occupies the chair."

"Whether you are in the chair or not, we are not going to be beaten," said Senator Gardner, hotly. "I will defy you to remove me from my place by any illegal act."

The incident was closed by the acting chairman, Mr. Groom (Vic.), who moved that Senator Gardner withdraw his amendment.

Senator Rae then moved that pictures, including scripture cards, be dutiable at 10 per cent, and 50 or 60 per cent, instead of 50 per cent and 60 per cent.

The committee divided on Senator Rae's amendment, which was defeated by 16 votes to 5.

On the proposal to place an import duty of 2 per cent, ad valorem, on the International Fund, the Government moved that a duty of 10 per cent, and 10 per cent, be imposed on other than Australian artists.

An amendment to strike out the duty was rejected by 17 votes to 5.

At the insistence of the Minister for Defence, pictures for cathedrals and churches were placed on the free list.

The remaining items of the tariff were recommended.

On item 222 (H), printed or dyed cotton and linen place goods were removed from the operation of the 5 per cent ad valorem rate and placed in a class carrying 50 and 50 per cent.

On item 226—wrought marble and granite were removed from the 50 per cent ad valorem.

At the instance of Senator McDougall the following duties were suggested to the House of Representatives—(1) motor cars, including double-seat sedans, £12 and £15; (2) double-seat bodies, £34 10s., £21, and (3) bodies, fixed or movable, canopy type, landauettes, taxi-cabs, and similar types, £42 and £56.

The Government accepted an amendment by Senator Rae to impose a duty of 50 per cent, and 50 per cent, on vessels not exceeding 400 tons register.

The bill was reported.

THE LOAN BILL.

At 2.30 a.m. the debate on the second reading of the Loan Bill was resumed.

Senator Miller (N.S.W.) said that he absolutely declined to go through the force of voting to legislate under such circumstances.

The Vice-President of the Executive said that a number of Senators were anxious to get home, and that the bill would soon be ready.

Senators: What, to-night?

The second reading of the bill was agreed to, and in Committee.

Senator Rae repeated his protest, and then with his colleagues left the Chamber, saying that he understood that the Government intended to take the Estimates at the sitting, and he would not be a party to the坐.

The Loan Bill was carried through the Committee stage.

PACIFIC CABLE BILL.

This bill was then passed through all stages, and at 2.45 a.m. the House adjourned until 11 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE ESTIMATES.

In the House of Representatives the Estimates were taken through by means of an all-night sitting, at midnight, on Tuesday, at which Mr. W. H. Irvine (Vic.) warned the Government not to proceed with its pronounced intention of pirating the public service by bringing into existence a new committee by bringing into operation a system of its own in which the aliens already registered were used.

Mr. Cook said that Mr. Irvine had done a service to the country by raising this question.

Why was there all this mystery?

Mr. Cook said that the Government had agreed to that.

Continuing, Mr. Deakin read extracts from the Prime Minister's speech of last session, in which he said that there was a danger of interference after the election.

The guarantees the Prime Minister had given regarding the 40 per cent. reserve should he be defeated that night, in the Bank of England during the last two weeks of the year.

Mr. Cook said that the 40 per cent. note reserve should be held in the Commonwealth Bank. He wanted to see the reserve earning interest for the benefit of the trust funds. He was willing to give the power to the Bank of England to hold the 40 per cent. note reserve.

Mr. Deakin (Vic.) said if the Prime Minister was willing to allow the bill to remain in the name of the Commonwealth Bank, he would let the bill go till next Parliament.

Mr. Cook (Vic.) said nothing to stop the bill.

Continuing, Mr. Deakin said, "I will do that."

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WHITE LINEN SKIRT, 50c.

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